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February 4, 2008

Gregory H. Zayia, Ph.D. – Registration No. 46,059
Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

Signature

February 4, 2008
Date of Transmission

Our Case No. 11333/27
Sysmex Ref. No. 1-2002-034US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Yasuyuki Kawashima et al.

Serial No. 10/679,146

Filing Date: October 3, 2003

For: Bacteria Counting Method, Bacteria Counting Apparatus and Reagent Kit for Counting Bacteria

Examiner Kailash C. Srivastava, Ph.D.

Group Art Unit No. 1657

RESPONSE

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Final Office Action mailed January 2, 2008, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in light of the following Amendment and Remarks.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this communication.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 3 of this communication.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this communication.